

Be Different Part 9: Fight For It

Objective: To challenge the listener to go out of their way to be a peace with others.

Read together:

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. 10 For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. 11 They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.

I Peter 3:8-11

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:18

- When you think of peace what comes to mind? Is that different than the Biblical definition of "completeness, safety, soundness, tranquility, contentment and friendship"?
- Based on the Biblical understanding of peace, do you agree with the assessment that there seems to be a shortage of peace in our society as a whole? Why or why not?
- Have you ever been in a relationship that WASN'T a peaceful relationship? What words describe how you felt in that relationship?
- Have you ever experienced a relationship that WAS peaceful? What words describe you felt/feel in that relationship?
- Can you give any examples of when you have been your own worst enemy when it comes to having peace in your relationships? If you're comfortable, share with the group.
- The pastor said, "You cannot force someone to be a peace with you, but you can choose to be at peace with them." Have you ever had a relationship where that was the case? What choices did you have to make to be at peace with them? Did it change the relationship?
- Of the things we need to do in order to fight for peace, Humble ourselves, deny ourselves, surrender our rights and submit to others, which is the hardest for you? What can you do to practice that one this week?

Final Thought: Peace is worth fighting for, we just have to remember who the real enemy is. What are you willing to do this week to fight for peace in your relationships?

